CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES
Department for Public Health
Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning
(Amendment)


STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 194A.050, 211.090(3), 211.180(1)(a), 214.010
NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 211.180(1)(a) requires the cabinet to implement a statewide program for the detection, prevention, and control of communicable diseases, chronic and degenerative diseases, dental diseases and abnormalities, occupational diseases and health hazards peculiar to industry, home accidents and health hazards, animal diseases which are transmissible to man, and other diseases and health hazards that may be controlled. KRS 214.010 requires every physician, advanced practice registered nurse, and every head of family to notify the local health department of the existence of diseases and conditions designated by administrative regulation of the cabinet. This administrative regulation establishes notification standards and specifies the diseases requiring immediate, urgent, priority, routine, or general notification, in order to facilitate rapid public health action to control diseases, and to permit an accurate assessment of the health status of the Commonwealth.

Section 1. Definitions. (1) "Acid fast bacilli" or "AFB" means the mycobacteria that, if stained, retains color even after they have been washed in an acid solution and may be detected under a microscope in a stained smear.
(2) "Authorize" means for a healthcare facility that participates in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) reporting to confer rights to the Kentucky Department for Public Health in the NHSN database.
(3) "Health facility" is defined by KRS 216B.015(13).
(4) "Health professional" means a professional licensed under KRS Chapters 311 through 314.
(5) "Healthcare-associated infection" or "HAI" means an infection acquired by a person while receiving treatment for a separate condition in a health care setting.
(6) "HIV case report" means an HIV infection or AIDS diagnosis which:
(a) Has been confirmed by laboratory test results; or
(b) Meets the definition of AIDS established within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.
(7) "Kentucky Department for Public Health Advisory" means a notification to health professionals, health facilities, and laboratories subject to this administrative regulation identifying a new health threat that warrants reporting through the procedures of this administrative regulation.
(8) "Laboratory-confirmed influenza" means influenza diagnosed through testing performed using one (1) of the following methods:
(a) Reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT PCR);
(b) Nucleic acid detection; or
(c) Viral culture.
(8) "Medical laboratory" is defined by KRS 333.020(3).
"National Healthcare Safety Network" or "NHSN" means the nation's most widely used healthcare-associated infection (HAI) tracking system as provided to medical facilities by the CDC.

"National reference laboratory" means a laboratory located outside of Kentucky that has been contracted by a Kentucky health professional, laboratory, or healthcare facility to provide laboratory testing.

"Novel influenza A virus" means an influenza virus that causes human infection but is different from the seasonal human influenza A virus subtypes and includes viruses predominantly of avian and swine origin.

"Nucleic acid amplification test" or "NAAT" means the laboratory test used to target and amplify a single deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) or ribonucleic acid (RNA) sequence, usually for detecting a microorganism.

"Outbreak" means:
(a) Two (2) or more cases, including HAIs, that are epidemiologically linked or connected by person, place, or time; or
(b) A single case of an HAI not commonly diagnosed.

"Pharmacist" means a professional licensed under KRS 315.010.

"Post-exposure prophylaxis" or "PEP" means taking an antiretroviral medicine after being potentially exposed to HIV to prevent becoming infected.

"Pre-exposure prophylaxis" or "PrEP" means daily medicine intended to reduce the chance of getting HIV.

"Select agent" means a biological agent or toxin that could pose a severe threat to public health, plant health, animal product, or plant product as determined by the National Select Agent Registry (NSAR) at www.selectagents.gov.

"Veterinarian" means a professional licensed under KRS 321.181.

Section 2. Notification Standards. (1) Health Professionals and Facilities.
(a) A health professional or a health facility shall give notification if:
1. The health professional or a health facility makes a probable diagnosis of a disease specified in Section 3, or 10, 13, 14, 15, or 16 of this administrative regulation; and
2. The diagnosis is supported by:
   a. Clinical or laboratory criteria; and
   b. Case classifications published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at www.cdc.gov/nndss; or
   c. A health professional's medical opinion that the disease is present.
(b) A single report by a health facility of a condition diagnosed by a test result from the health facility's laboratory shall constitute notification on behalf of the health facility and its laboratory.
(c) A health facility may designate an individual to report on behalf of the health facility's laboratory, pharmacy, and the health facility's other clinical entities.
(d) Notification shall be given to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides.
(e) If the local health department cannot be reached, notification shall be given to the Kentucky Department for Public Health.
(f) The reporting health professional or health facility shall furnish:
2. (b) Clinical, epidemiologic, and laboratory information pertinent to the disease including sources of specimens submitted for laboratory testing.

(2)(7) Medical Laboratories.
   (a) Upon a laboratory test result that indicates infection with an agent associated with one (1) or more of the diseases or conditions specified in Section 3, [5], 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 16, 17, 18, or 19 [10, 13, 14, 15, or 16] of this administrative regulation shall be reported to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides.
   (b)(8) If the local health department cannot be reached, notification shall be given to the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

(c)(9) The reporting laboratory shall furnish the information required in Section 5(6)[4(16)] of this administrative regulation.

(3)(10) National Reference Laboratories.
   (a) Upon a test result performed by a national reference laboratory that indicates infection with an agent associated with one (1) or more of the diseases or conditions specified in Section 3, [5], 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, 16, 17, 18, or 19 [10, 13, 14, 15, or 16] of this administrative regulation shall be reported by the director of a medical laboratory, a health facility, or the health professional that referred the test to the national reference laboratory to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides.
   (b)(11) If the local health department cannot be reached, notification shall be given to the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

(c)(12) The report shall include the information required by Section 5(6)[4(16)] of this administrative regulation.

Section 3. Submission of Specimens to the Kentucky Department for Public Health Division of Laboratory Services. (1) A medical laboratory and a national reference laboratory in receipt of diagnostic specimens originating from the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall send direct specimens or pure clinical isolates for diseases outlined in subsection (5) of this section to the Division of Laboratory Services for primary or confirmatory testing and related studies.

(2) A medical laboratory or national reference laboratory using non-culture techniques to identify bacterial agents of diarrheal disease, such as enzyme immunoassays (EIAs) or molecular assays, shall attempt isolation of the etiologic agent identified. Pure clinical isolates shall be submitted to the Division of Laboratory Services.

(3) If the culture attempts do not produce a clinical isolate, the direct specimen, submitted in the appropriate preservative, shall be sent to the Division of Laboratory Services. A submitting laboratory shall provide the name of the etiologic agent detected by the non-culture technique at the time of specimen submission.

(4) A medical laboratory performing this test shall continue to follow the state's requirement for the submission of appropriate materials to the state public health laboratory.

(5) A medical or national reference laboratory shall submit pure clinical isolates or, if not available, the direct specimen from the following diseases to the Division of Laboratory Services:
   (a) Botulism, with prior approval from the Division of Epidemiology for testing;
   (b) Brucellosis;
   (c) Campylobacteriosis;
   (d) Candida auris;
   (e) Carbapenem-resistant Acinetobacter;
   (f) Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae;
(g) Carbapenem-resistant Pseudomonas;
(h) Cholera and diseases caused by other Vibrio species;
(i) Diphtheria;
(j) Escherichia coli O157:H7;
(k) Hemolytic Uremic Syndrome (HUS) – Post Diarrheal;
(l) Listeriosis;
(m) Measles;
(n) Meningococcal infections;
(o) Rabies, animal;
(p) Rubella;
(q) Salmonellosis;
(r) Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC);
(s) Shigellosis;
(t) Tuberculosis;
(u) Tularemia;
(v) Typhoid fever;
(w) Vancomycin-intermediate Staphylococcus aureus;
(x) Vancomycin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus; and
(y) Zika, with prior approval from the Division of Epidemiology for testing.
(6) All direct specimens or clinical isolates from enteric disease shall be submitted within seventy-two (72) hours from collection.

Section 4. Laboratory testing and submission of specimens to the Division of Laboratory Services for the identification of M. tuberculosis. (1) A medical laboratory or national reference laboratory shall perform AFB smear and culture, regardless of rapid molecular testing results (i.e. NAAT).
(2) Rapid molecular testing shall be performed for the identification of M. tuberculosis on:
(a) Any diagnostic specimen with an AFB smear positive result; or
(b) Any specimen that originates from an individual with clinical or epidemiological evidence suggesting active tuberculosis.
(3) If rapid molecular testing cannot be performed by the medical laboratory or national reference laboratory, the diagnostic specimen shall be sent to the Division of Laboratory Services.
(4) A medical laboratory or national reference laboratory that has a diagnostic specimen test positive for M. tuberculosis by rapid molecular testing shall send the remainder of that specimen to the Division of Laboratory Services.
(5) Any diagnostic specimen found to be positive for M. tuberculosis by rapid molecular testing or culture testing shall be reported in accordance with Section 7 of this administrative regulation.

Section 5. Reporting Classifications and Methods. (1) Immediate reporting.
(a) A report required by Section 12[10](1) and (2) of this administrative regulation to be made immediately shall be:
1. Made by telephone to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides; and
2. Followed up by electronic or fax submission to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides within one (1) business day.
Upon receipt of a report for a disease requiring immediate reporting, the local health department shall:

1. Notify the Kentucky Department for Public Health by telephone; and
2. Assist the department in carrying out a public health response.

Weekend, evening, or holiday immediate notification. If local health department personnel cannot be contacted directly, notification shall be made by telephone using an emergency number provided by the local health department or the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

For the protection of patient confidentiality, a report using the emergency number shall include:

1. The name of the condition being reported; and
2. A telephone number that can be used by the department to contact the reporting health professional or health facility.

Urgent Reporting.

A report made within twenty-four (24) hours as required by Section 6 of this administrative regulation shall be:

1. Submitted electronically, by fax, or by telephone to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides; and
2. If submitted by telephone, followed up by electronic or fax submission to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides within one (1) business day.

Upon receipt of a report for a disease requiring urgent reporting, the local health department shall:

1. Notify the Kentucky Department for Public Health; and
2. Assist the department in carrying out a public health response.

Weekend, evening, or holiday urgent notification. If local health department personnel cannot be contacted directly, notification shall be made by telephone using an emergency number provided by the local health department or the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

For the protection of patient confidentiality, notification using the emergency number shall include:

1. The name of the condition being reported; and
2. A telephone number that can be used by the department to contact the reporting health professional or health facility.

Priority Reporting.

A report made within one (1) business day as required by Section 7, 11, 12(3), 17(4), or 18 of this administrative regulation shall be:

1. Submitted electronically, by fax, or by telephone to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides; and
2. If submitted by telephone, followed up by electronic or fax submission of a report to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides within one (1) business day.

Upon receipt of a report for a disease requiring priority reporting, a local health department shall:

1. Investigate the report and carry out public health protection measures; and
2. Notify the Kentucky Department for Public Health of the case by electronic or fax submission within one (1) business day.

The reporting health department may seek assistance in carrying out public health measures from the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

Routine Reporting.
(a) A report made within five (5) business days, as required by Section 8, 9, 10, 13(1), 16(1), 17(7), or 20(1) [Sections 7, 8, 9, 11(1), 13, 14(7), and 17] of this administrative regulation, shall be made electronically, by fax, or by mail to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides.

(b) Upon receipt of a report of a disease or condition requiring routine reporting, a local health department shall:
   1. Make a record of the report;
   2. Answer inquiries or render assistance regarding the report if requested by the reporting entity; and
   3. Forward the report to the Kentucky Department for Public Health by electronic or fax submission of a report, or in writing within five (5) business days.

(5) General Reporting. A report made within three (3) months, as required by Section 19 of this administrative regulation, shall be made electronically, by fax, or by mail.

(6) Reporting requirements.
   (a) A report submitted by fax or by mail shall be made using one (1) of the following reporting forms:
      1. EPID 200, Kentucky Reportable Disease Form;
      2. EPID 250, Kentucky Reportable MDRO Form, to be used for priority reporting until electronic reporting is available pursuant to Section 9(1) of this administrative regulation;
      3. EPID 394, Kentucky Reportable Disease Form, Hepatitis Infection in Pregnant Women or Child (aged five (5) years or less);
      4. EPID 399, Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Form for Infants;
      5. Adult HIV/AIDS Confidential Case Report Form; or

(b) Information to be reported. Except as provided in subsections (1)(d)(3) and (2)(d)(7) of this section, a report required by this administrative regulation shall include:
   1. Patient name;
   2. Date of birth;
   3. Gender;
   4. Race;
   5. Ethnicity;
   6. Patient address;
   7. County of residence;
   8. Patient telephone number;
   9. Name of the reporting medical provider or facility;
   10. Address of the reporting medical provider or facility; and
   11. Telephone number of the reporting medical provider or facility.

(c) A reporting health professional shall furnish the information listed in this subsection [(16) of this section] and Section 2(1)(f)(6)(b) of this administrative regulation.

Section 6. Notifiable Infectious Conditions Requiring Urgent Notification. (1) Notification of the following diseases shall be considered urgent and shall be made within twenty-four (24) hours:
   (a) Anthrax;
   (b) Botulism;
   (c) Brucellosis (multiple cases, temporally or spatially clustered);
   (d) Diphtheria;
   (e) Hepatitis A, acute;
   (f) Measles;
Meningococcal infections;
(h) Middle East Respiratory Syndrome-associated Coronavirus (MERS-CoV) disease;
(i) Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MIS-C);
(j) Novel influenza A virus infections;
(k) Plague;
(l) Poliomyelitis;
(m) Rabies, animal;
(n) Rabies, human;
(o) Rubella;
(p) Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-associated Coronavirus (SARS-CoV) disease;
(q) Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (the virus that causes COVID-19);
(r) Smallpox;
(s) Tularemia;
(t) Varicella;
(v) Viral hemorrhagic fevers due to:
1. Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever virus;
2. Ebola virus;
3. Lassa virus;
4. Lujo virus;
5. Marburg virus; or
6. New world arenaviruses including:
   1. Guanarito virus;
   2. Junin virus;
   3. Machupo virus; and
   4. Sabia virus; and
(u) Yellow fever.

To track the spread of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), the virus that causes COVID-19, notification of testing results shall include both positive and negative test results.

Section 7. Notifiable Infectious Conditions and Notifiable Non-Infectious Conditions Requiring Priority Notification. Notification of the following diseases or conditions shall be considered priority and shall be made within one (1) business day:
(1) Arboviral diseases, neuroinvasive and non-neuroinvasive, including:
(a) California serogroup virus diseases, including diseases caused by:
   1. California encephalitis virus;
   2. Jamestown Canyon virus;
   3. Keystone virus;
   4. La Crosse virus;
   5. Snowshoe hare virus; and
   6. Trivittatus viruses;
(b) Chikungunya virus disease;
(c) Eastern equine encephalitis virus disease;
(d) Powassan virus disease;
(e) St. Louis encephalitis virus disease;
(f) Venezuelan equine encephalitis disease;
(g) West Nile virus disease;
(h) Western equine encephalitis virus disease; and
(i) Zika virus disease or infection or the birth of a child to a mother who was Zika-positive or Zika-inconclusive during any stage of pregnancy or during the periconceptional period;
(2) Brucellosis (cases not temporally or spatially clustered);
(3) Campylobacteriosis;
(4) Carbon monoxide poisoning;
(5) Cholera;
(6) Cryptosporidiosis;
(7) Cyclosporiasis;
(8) Dengue virus infections;
(9) Escherichia coli O157:H7;
(10) Foodborne disease outbreak;
(11) Giardiasis;
(12) Haemophilus influenzae invasive disease;
(13) Hansen's disease (leprosy);
(14) Hantavirus infection, non-Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome;
(15) Hantavirus pulmonary syndrome (HPS);
(16) Hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS), post-diarrheal;
(17) Hepatitis B, acute;
(18) Hepatitis B infection in a pregnant woman;
(19) Hepatitis B infection in an infant or a child aged five (5) years or less;
(20) Newborns born to Hepatitis B positive mothers at the time of delivery;
(21) Influenza-associated mortality;
(22) Legionellosis;
(23) Leptospirosis;
(24) Listeriosis;
(25) Mumps;
(26) Norovirus outbreak;
(27) Pertussis;
(28) Pesticide-related illness, acute;
(29) Psittacosis;
(30) Q fever;
(31) Rubella, congenital syndrome;
(32) Salmonellosis;
(33) Shiga toxin-producing E. coli (STEC);
(34) Shigellosis;
(35) Streptococcal toxic-shock syndrome;
(36) Streptococcus pneumoniae, invasive disease;
(37) Tetanus;
(38) Toxic-shock syndrome (other than Streptococcal);
(39) Tuberculosis;
(40) Typhoid fever;
(41) Vibriosis; and
(42) Waterborne disease outbreak.

Section 8. Notifiable Infectious Conditions and Notifiable Non-Infectious Conditions Requiring Routine Notification. Notification of the following diseases shall be considered routine and shall be made within five (5) business days:
(1) Acute Flaccid Myelitis;
(2) Anaplasmosis:
(3) Babesiosis;
(4) Coccidioidomycosis;
(5) Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease;
(6) Ehrlichiosis/Anaplasmosis;
(7) Hepatitis C, acute;
(8) Hepatitis C infection in a pregnant woman;
(9) Hepatitis C infection in an infant or a child aged five (5) years or less;
(10) Newborns born to Hepatitis C positive mothers at the time of delivery;
(11) Histoplasmosis;
(12) Laboratory-confirmed influenza;
(13) Lead poisoning;
(14) Lyme Disease;
(15) Malaria;
(16) Spotted Fever Rickettsiosis (Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever);
(17) Toxoplasmosis; and
(18) Trichinellosis (Trichinosis).

Section 9[8]. Notifiable Infectious Conditions Requiring Routine Notification by Electronic Laboratory Reporting. (1) Beginning October 1, 2016, Notification of the following diseases shall be considered routine and shall be electronically reported to the Kentucky Department for Public Health through the Kentucky Health Information Exchange within five (5) business days:

(a) Cyclosporiasis;
(b) Giardiasis;
(e) Hepatitis B laboratory test results, which shall:
1. Be reported as positive or negative; and
2. Include the serum bilirubin levels or serum alanine aminotransferase taken within ten (10) days of the test of a patient who has tested positive; and
(b) or
2. Include the serum alanine aminotransferase levels taken within ten (10) days of the test of a patient who tested positive;
(d) Hepatitis C laboratory test results, which shall:
1. Be reported as positive or negative; and
2. Include the serum bilirubin levels or serum alanine aminotransferase taken within ten (10) days of the test of a patient who has tested positive; or
2. Include the serum alanine aminotransferase levels taken within ten (10) days of the test of a patient who tested positive; and
(e) Varicella laboratory test results reported as positive for:
1. Isolation of varicella virus from a clinical specimen;
2. Varicella antigen detected by direct fluorescent antibody test;
3. Varicella-specific nucleic acid detected by polymerase chain reaction (PCR); or
4. A significant rise in serum anti-varicella immunoglobulin G (IgG) antibody level by a standard serologic assay.

(2) Reports made pursuant to this section shall include a diagnosis.

Section 10[9]. Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms and Other Organisms Requiring Routine Notification by Electronic Laboratory Reporting. (1) Beginning October 1, 2016, Notification of
the following diseases shall be considered routine and shall be electronically reported to the Kentucky Department for Public Health through the Kentucky Health Information Exchange within five (5) business days:

(a) Clostridioides (formerly Clostridium) difficile (C. difficile) identified from a positive laboratory test result for C. difficile toxin A or B (includes molecular assays (PCR) or toxin assays) or a toxin-producing organism detected by culture or other laboratory means performed on a stool sample;

(b) Enterobacteriaceae species resistant to ceftazidime, ceftriaxone, or cefotaxime [Vancomycin-intermediate Staphylococcus aureus (VISA), which includes S. aureus cultured from any specimen that the results show a minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of 4-8 \( \mu g/mL \) per standard laboratory methods;]

(b) Vancomycin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (VRSA), which includes S. aureus cultured from any specimen that the results show a minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of greater than or equal to 16 \( \mu g/mL \) per standard laboratory methods;]

(c) Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA), which includes S. aureus cultured from any specimen that tests oxacillin-resistant, cefoxitin-resistant, or methicillin-resistant by standard susceptibility testing methods, or by a laboratory test that is FDA-approved for MRSA detection from isolated colonies. These methods may also include a positive result by any FDA-approved test for MRSA detection; and

(d) Vancomycin-resistant Enterococcus species (VRE), only those identified to the species level, that are resistant to Vancomycin by standard susceptibility testing methods or by results from any FDA-approved test for VRE detection from specific specimen sources[;]

(e) Clostridium difficile (C. difficile) identified from a positive laboratory test result for a C. difficile toxin A or B (includes molecular assays (PCR) or toxin assays) or a toxin-producing organism detected by culture or other laboratory means performed on a stool sample;

(f) Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE), which includes Escherichia coli, Klebsiella oxytoca, Klebsiella pneumonia, or Enterobacter species testing resistant to imipenem, meropenem, doripenem, or ertapenem by standard susceptibility testing methods or by production of carbapenemase by an isolate demonstrated by using a recognized test;

(g) Cephalosporin-resistant Klebsiella, which includes Klebsiella oxytoca, Klebsiella pneumonia, or a Klebsiella species testing nonsusceptible (resistant or intermediate) to ceftazidime, cefotaxime, ceftriaxone, or cefepime;

(h) Extended-spectrum beta-lactamase Gram negative organisms (ESBL) Enterobacteriaceae species nonsusceptible (resistant or intermediate) to ceftazidime, cefepime, ceftriaxone, or cefotaxime;

(i) Multidrug-resistant Acinetobacter - Nonsusceptibility (resistant or intermediate) to at least one (1) agent in at least three (3) antimicrobial classes of the following six (6) classes: 1. Ampicillin-sulbactam;

2. Cephalosporins (cefepime, ceftazidime);

\[ \beta \]-lactam-\[ \beta \]-lactamase inhibitor combination (pipracillin, pipercillin-tazobactam);

4. Carbenemases (imipenem, meropenem, doripenem);

5. Fluoroquinolones (ciprofloxacin or levofloxacin) and

6. Aminoglycosides (gentamicin, tobramycin, or amikacin); and

(j) Multidrug-resistant Pseudomonas - Nonsusceptibility, resistant or intermediate, to at least one (1) agent in at least three (3) antimicrobial classes of the following five (5) classes:

1. Cephalosporins (cefepime, ceftazidime);

2. \[ \beta \]-lactam-\[ \beta \]-lactam-\[ \beta \]-lactamase inhibitor combination (pipracillin, pipercillin-tazobactam);

3. Carbenemases (imipenem, meropenem, doripenem);
4. Fluoroquinolones (ciprofloxacin or levofloxacin); and
5. Aminoglycosides (gentamicin, tobramycin, or amikacin).

(2) The report of an organism under this section shall include the following:
(a) Date of specimen collection;
(b) Source of specimen;
(c) Susceptibility pattern; and
(d) Name of the ordering health professional.

(3) Upon a test result performed by a medical laboratory that indicates infection with an agent associated with one (1) or more of the diseases or conditions or a multi-drug resistant organism specified in this section, the director of the medical laboratory shall electronically report the result to the Kentucky Department for Public Health through the Kentucky Health Information Exchange within five (5) days.

(4) The report shall include a diagnosis.

Section 11. Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms and Other Organisms Requiring Priority Reporting by EPID 250 and by electronic laboratory reporting to the Kentucky Department for Public Health through the Kentucky Health Information Exchange within one (1) business day. Notification of the following diseases shall be considered priority:

(1) Candida auris - Laboratory Criteria for Diagnosis shall include:
(a) Confirmatory laboratory evidence for detection of Candida auris from any body site using either culture or a culture independent diagnostic test (e.g., Polymerase Chain Reaction {PCR}); or
(b) Presumptive laboratory evidence for detection of Candida haemulonii from any body site using a yeast identification method that is not able to detect Candida auris, and either the isolate or specimen is not available for further testing, or the isolate or specimen has not yet undergone further testing;

(2) Carbapenem-resistant – Acinetobacter – Any Acinetobacter species testing resistant to imipenem, meropenem, or doripenem, with MIC value greater than or equal to 8 µg/mL by standard susceptibility testing methods, or by identification of a carbapenemase using a recognized test;

(3) Carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE), Any Enterobacteriaceae species testing resistant to imipenem, meropenem, or doripenem, with MIC value greater than or equal to 4 µg/mL, or ertapenem with MIC value greater than or equal to 2 µg/mL, by standard susceptibility testing methods, or by identification of a carbapenemase using a recognized test;

(4) Carbapenem-resistant – Pseudomonas – Any Pseudomonas species testing resistant to imipenem, meropenem, or doripenem, with MIC value greater than or equal to 8 µg/mL by standard susceptibility testing methods, or by identification of a carbapenemase using a recognized test;

(5) Vancomycin-intermediate Staphylococcus aureus (VISA), which includes S. aureus cultured from any specimen having a minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of 4-8 µg/mL for vancomycin per standard laboratory methods; and

(6) Vancomycin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (VRSA), which includes S. aureus cultured from any specimen having a minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) of greater than or equal to 16 µg/mL for vancomycin per standard laboratory methods.

Section 12[40]. Newly Recognized Infectious Agents, HAI Outbreaks, Emerging Pathogens, and Pathogens of Public Health Importance. (1) The following shall be reported immediately by telephone to the Kentucky Department for Public Health:
(a) A suspected incidence of bioterrorism caused by a biological agent;
(b) Submission of a specimen to the Kentucky Division of Laboratory Services for select agent identification or select agent confirmation testing; or
(c) An outbreak of a disease or condition that resulted in multiple hospitalizations or death.

(2) An unexpected pattern of cases, suspected cases, or deaths that may indicate the following shall be reported immediately by telephone to the local health department in the county where the health professional is practicing or where the facility is located:
(a) A newly-recognized infectious agent;
(b) An outbreak;
(c) An emerging pathogen that may pose a danger to the health of the public;
(d) An epidemic; or
(e) A noninfectious chemical, biological, or radiological agent.

(3) A report of the following shall be considered priority and shall be reported to the local health department in the county where the health professional is practicing or where the facility is located within one (1) business day:
(a) Suspected Staphylococcal or other foodborne intoxication; or
(b) Salmonellosis or other foodborne or waterborne infection.

(4) The local health department shall:
(a) Investigate the outbreak or occurrence;
(b) Carry out public health protection measures to address the disease or condition involved; and
(c) Make medical and environmental recommendations to prevent future similar outbreaks or occurrences.

(5) The local health department may seek assistance from the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

Section 13. Laboratory Surveillance. (1) Medical or national reference laboratory results for the following shall be considered routine:
(a) Influenza virus isolates;
(b) PCR-positive test results for influenza virus; and
(c) DNA molecular assays for influenza virus.

(2) The report shall include specific laboratory information pertinent to the result.

(3) Upon request by the Kentucky Department for Public Health, a health facility laboratory or a medical laboratory shall report the number of clinical isolates and information regarding the antimicrobial resistance patterns of the clinical isolates at intervals no less frequently than three (3) months for the following:
(a) Acinetobacter baumannii complex;
(b) Enterobacter cloacae complex;
(c) Enterococcus species;
(d) Escherichia coli;
(e) Klebsiella oxytoca;
(f) Klebsiella pneumoniae;
(g) Pseudomonas aeruginosa;
(h) Staphylococcus aureus;
(b) Enterococcus species; or
(i) An organism specified in a request that includes a justification of its public health importance.

(4) A facility that reports antimicrobial resistance (AR) data to the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) AUR (Antimicrobial Use & Resistance) module shall meet this reporting requirement through NHSN reporting.
Section 14[42]. Healthcare-Associated Infection Surveillance. (1) A healthcare facility in Kentucky that participates in CMS reporting programs shall authorize the CDC to allow the Kentucky Department for Public Health to access health care-associated infection data reported to NHSN.

(2) The Kentucky Department for Public Health shall preserve patient confidentiality and shall not disclose to the public any patient-level data obtained from any health care facility.

(3) The Kentucky Department for Public Health may issue reports to the public regarding healthcare-associated infections in aggregate data form that:
   (a) May identify individual health care facilities; and
   (b) Shall comply with methodology developed by the CDC and CMS for national reporting of health care-associated infections.

(4) The Kentucky Department for Public Health may evaluate healthcare-associated infection data for accuracy and completeness.


(2) Reporting deadlines shall be consistent with the CMS reporting program submission deadlines of data to the NHSN.

(3) The HAI/AR Prevention Program shall provide the specifications for data submission.

(4) Hospitals shall include aggregated antimicrobial use and patient day data for all inpatient units (i.e., facility-wide inpatient) included in the NHSN Laboratory-identified (LabID) MRSA Bacteremia reporting.

(5) The antimicrobial use numerator shall be days of therapy (DOTs) as defined by the NHSN Antimicrobial Use and Resistance (AUR) Module, available at //www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/11pscaurcurrent.pdf.

(6) Total DOTs shall be submitted for each of the following antimicrobials:
   (a) Azithromycin;
   (b) Cefepime;
   (c) Ceftazidime;
   (d) Ceftriaxone;
   (e) Ciprofloxacin;
   (f) Clindamycin;
   (g) Daptomycin;
   (h) Ertapenem;
   (i) Imipenem;
   (j) Levofloxacin;
   (k) Linezolid;
   (l) Meropenem;
   (m) Moxifloxacin;
   (n) Piperacillin-tazobactam; and
   (o) Vancomycin.

(7) Total DOTs for the listed drugs shall include only administrations via the intravenous and digestive tract routes.
(8) The denominator for antimicrobial use reporting shall be patient days as defined by the NHSN LabID Module available at https://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/pdfs/pscmanual/12pscmdro_cdadcurrent.pdf.

(9) A hospital that reports antimicrobial use data to the NHSN AUR Module shall meet this reporting requirement through NHSN reporting.

Section 16[+3]. Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) Surveillance. (1) All case reports shall be submitted to the HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program of the Kentucky Department for Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning, or its designee. [A report of an HIV infection or AIDS diagnosis shall be considered routine and shall be reported] within five (5) business days of diagnosis on one (1) of the following forms:

(a) Adult HIV/AIDS Confidential Case Report Form; or
(b) Pediatric HIV/AIDS Confidential Case Report Form.

(2) Health professionals and medical laboratories shall report:

(a) A positive test result for HIV infection including a result from:
1. 3rd generation immunoassay;
2. 4th generation immunoassay;
3. Western Blot;
4. PCR;
5. HIV-1 or HIV-2 differentiating such as Multispot;
6. HIV antigen;
7. HIV antibody;
8. CD4+ assay including absolute CD4+ cell counts and CD4+%;
9. HIV Viral Load Assay including detectable and undetectable values; or
10. HIV genetic sequencing; or
11. A positive confirmatory serologic test result for HIV infection; or
(b) A diagnosis of AIDS that meets the definition of AIDS established within the CDC guidelines.

(3) The most recent negative HIV test, if available, shall be submitted with the report required by paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection.

(4) Any request for data related to HIV infection or AIDS shall be made to the Department for Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning [A case report for a resident of Jefferson, Henry, Oldham, Bullitt, Shelby, Spencer, or Trimble County shall be submitted to the HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program of the Louisville-Metro Health Department.]

A case report for a resident of the remaining Kentucky counties shall be submitted to the HIV/AIDS Surveillance Program of the Kentucky Department for Public Health, Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning.

(5) A case report for a person with an HIV infection without a diagnosis of AIDS, or HIV infection with a diagnosis of AIDS shall include the following information:

(a) The patient’s full name;
(b) The patient’s complete address;
(c) Date of birth using the format MMDDYYYY;
(d) Gender;
(e) Race;
(f) Ethnicity;
(g) Risk factor as identified by CDC;
(h) County of residence;
(i) Name of provider and facility submitting report including contact information;
(j) Specimen collected;
(k) Date and type of HIV test performed using the format MMDDYYYY;
(l) Results of CD4+ cell counts and CD4+%;
(m) Results of viral load testing;
(n) Results of PCR, HIV culture, HIV antigen, and HIV antibody, if performed;
(o) Results of TB testing, if available;
(p) Any documented HIV negative test, if available;
(q) History of PrEP or PEP treatment, if available;
(r) Antiretroviral treatment, if available;
(s) HIV status of the person’s partner, spouse, or children, as applicable;
(t).

6 (a) A report of an AIDS case shall include:
(b) Information in subsections (2) through (5) of this section;
(c) Opportunistic infections diagnosed; and
(d) Date of onset of illness.

7 A report of AIDS shall be made whether or not the patient has been previously reported as having an HIV infection.

Section 17. Sexually Transmitted Disease (STD). (1) Notification of a probable diagnosis of an STD as specified in subsection (4) or (7) of this section shall be made.
(2) The report shall provide the following information:
(a) Pregnancy status; and
(b) Clinical, epidemiologic, laboratory, and treatment information pertinent to the disease.
(3) Upon a laboratory test result that indicates infection with an agent associated with one (1) or more of the diseases or conditions specified in subsection (4) of this section, a medical laboratory shall report to the Kentucky Department for Public Health information required by Section 5(6)(b)(4(16)) of this administrative regulation.

4 Sexually Transmitted Diseases Requiring Priority Notification. A report of the following shall be considered priority and shall be made within one (1) business day:
(a) Each pregnant female who has tested positive for syphilis regardless of stage; or
(b) Syphilis - primary, secondary, or early latent.
(5) Upon receipt of a report for a disease or condition specified in subsection (4) of this section, a local health department shall:
(a) Investigate the report;
(b) Carry out public health protection measures to address the disease or condition; and
(c) Forward the report to the Kentucky Department for Public Health within one (1) business day.
(6) The local health department may seek assistance from the Kentucky Department for Public Health.
(7) Sexually Transmitted Diseases Requiring Routine Notification. A report of the following shall be considered routine and shall be made within five (5) business days:
(a) Chancroid;
(b) Chlamydia trachomatis infection;
(c) Gonorrhea;
(d) Granuloma inguinale;
(e) Lymphogranuloma venereum; or
(f) Syphilis, other than primary, secondary, early latent, or congenital.

(8) Upon receipt of a report for a disease or condition specified in subsection (7) of this section, a local health department shall:
(a) Make a record of the report using Form EPID 200, Kentucky Reportable Disease Form;
(b) Forward the report to the Kentucky Department for Public Health within five (5) business days; and
(c) Render assistance if requested by the reporting entity or the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

Section 18[15]. Tuberculosis. (1) A pharmacist shall give notice if two (2) or more of the following medications used for the initial treatment of active tuberculosis are dispensed to an inpatient in a health facility or to an ambulatory patient in a health facility or a pharmacy:
(a) Ethambutol;
(b) Isoniazid;
(c) Pyrazinamide; and
(d) Rifampin or rifabutin; and
(b) Isoniazid;
(e) Pyrazinamide; and
(d) Ethambutol].

(2)(a) A report of tuberculosis shall be considered priority and shall be reported to the local health department serving the county in which the patient resides.
(b)[(3)] If the local health department cannot be reached, notification shall be given to the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

(3)[(4)] The report shall include:
(a) Information required in Section 5(6)(b)[4(16)] of this administrative regulation; and
(b) Names of the medications dispensed.

Section 19[16]. Asbestosis, Coal Worker’s Pneumoconiosis, and Silicosis. (1) A health professional shall report a diagnosis of the following to the Kentucky Department for Public Health within three (3) months of diagnosis:
(a) Asbestosis;
(b) Coal worker’s pneumoconiosis; or
(c) Silicosis.

(2) A report required under this section shall include the following information regarding the patient:
(a) Name;
(b) Address;
(c) Date of birth; and
(d) County of residence.

Section 20[17]. Reporting of Communicable Diseases in Animals. (1) A diagnosis in an animal of a condition known to be communicable to humans, except for rabies, shall require routine notification.

(2) A veterinarian shall report the diagnosis within five (5) business days to the local health department serving the county in which the animal is located.

(3) If a laboratory test indicates infection of an animal with an agent associated with a condition known to be communicable to humans, the director of a medical laboratory shall report the
result to the local health department serving the county in which the animal is located within five (5) business days.

(4) The local health department receiving the report shall:
   (a) Investigate the report;
   (b) Carry out public health protection measures for the control of communicable diseases; and
   (c) Forward the report to the Kentucky Department for Public Health within five (5) business days.

(5) The local health department may seek assistance from the Kentucky Department for Public Health.

Section 21. Kentucky Department for Public Health Advisory. (1) If the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services or the Commissioner of the Department for Public Health determines that a disease not presently listed in this administrative regulation requires reporting, the secretary or commissioner may issue a Kentucky Public Health Advisory.

   (2) The Kentucky Public Health Advisory shall include:
      (a) Date and time the advisory is issued;
      (b) A unique number to identify the advisory;
      (c) Names for the disease or condition;
      (d) A description of the disease or condition;
      (e) Recommendations for health professionals, health facilities, and laboratories; and
      (f) Notification requirements including:
         1. The notification time interval;
         2. Methods for notification; and
         3. Forms to be completed and submitted with the notification.

   (3) The duty to report by health professionals, health facilities, and laboratories pursuant to a Kentucky Public Health Advisory shall begin upon receipt of the advisory and shall remain in effect until the advisory is rescinded by order of the secretary or the commissioner.

Section 22. Penalty. If the cabinet has cause to believe that a physician willfully neglects or refuses to notify the cabinet in accordance with this administrative regulation, pursuant to KRS 214.990(1) the cabinet shall make a referral to the appropriate professional licensing board.

Section 23. Incorporation by Reference. (1) The following material is incorporated by reference:

(a) [Form] "EPID 200, Kentucky Reportable Disease Form", 4/2020[6/2016];
(b) [Form] "EPID 250, Kentucky Reportable MDRO Form", 4/2020[6/2014];
(c) [Form] "EPID 394, Kentucky Reportable Disease Form, Hepatitis Infection in Pregnant Women or Child (aged five years or less)", 4/2020[9/2016];
(d) [Form] "EPID 399, Perinatal Hepatitis B Prevention Form for Infants", 6/2020[4/2012];
(e) [Form] "Adult HIV Confidential Case Report Form", 11/2019[3/2013]; and

(2) This material may be inspected, copied, or obtained, subject to applicable copyright law, at the Department for Public Health, 275 East Main Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40621, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

STEVEN J. STACK, MD, MBA, Commissioner
ERIC C. FRIEDLANDER, Secretary
APPROVED BY AGENCY: June 12, 2020
PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: A public hearing on this administrative regulation shall, if requested, be held on August 24, 2020, at 9:00 a.m. in Suites A & B, Health Services Building, First Floor, 275 East Main Street, Frankfort, Kentucky 40621. Individuals interested in attending this hearing shall notify this agency in writing by August 17, 2020, five (5) workdays prior to the hearing, of their intent to attend. If no notification of intent to attend the hearing is received by that date, the hearing may be canceled. This hearing is open to the public. Any person who attends will be given an opportunity to comment on the proposed administrative regulation. A transcript of the public hearing will not be made unless a written request for a transcript is made. If you do not wish to be heard at the public hearing, you may submit written comments on this proposed administrative regulation until August 31, 2020. Send written notification of intent to attend the public hearing or written comments on the proposed administrative regulation to the contact person. Pursuant to KRS 13A.280(8), copies of the statement of consideration and, if applicable, the amended after comments version of the administrative regulation shall be made available upon request.

CONTACT PERSON: Donna Little, Deputy Executive Director, Office of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, 275 East Main Street 5 W-A, Frankfort, Kentucky 40621; Phone: 502-564-6746; Fax: 502-564-7091; CHFSregs@ky.gov.

REGULATORY IMPACT ANALYSIS AND TIERING STATEMENT

Contact Person: Julie Brooks or Donna Little

1. Provide a brief summary of:
   (a) What this administrative regulation does: This administrative regulation establishes notification standards and specifies the diseases requiring immediate, urgent, priority, routine, or general notification, in order to facilitate rapid public health action to control diseases, and to permit an accurate assessment of the health status of the Commonwealth.
   
   (b) The necessity of this administrative regulation: KRS 211.180(1) requires the cabinet to implement and maintain a statewide program for the detection, prevention, and control of reportable diseases. KRS 214.010 requires every physician, advanced practice registered nurse, and every head of family to notify the local health department of the existence of diseases and conditions designated by administrative regulation of the cabinet.
   
   (c) How this administrative regulation conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: This administrative regulation delineates which diseases are reportable including the urgency of the notification.
   
   (d) How this administrative regulation currently assists or will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: This administrative regulation will allow clinicians including every physician, advanced practice registered nurse, and head of family to notify the local health department of the existence of the diseases specified in the administrative regulation.

2. If this is an amendment to an existing administrative regulation, provide a brief summary of:
   (a) How the amendment will change this existing administrative regulation: The amendment to this administrative regulation updates the list of reportable diseases, which includes Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) (the virus that causes COVID-19) and Multi-system Inflammatory Syndrome in Children (MSI-C), adds the provisions for submitting specimens for the identification of M. tuberculosis, updates the reporting requirements for multi-drug resistant organisms, adds the provisions for antimicrobial use reporting, updates the reporting requirements for HIV infection, adds reference to penalties for non-reporting, and updates the material incorporated by reference.
(b) The necessity of the amendment to this administrative regulation: The amendment to this administrative regulation is necessary to accurately capture pertinent information regarding M. tuberculosis; to maintain current reporting requirements based on the evolution of multi-drug resistant organisms; to collect data on facility-wide inpatient antimicrobial use as part of the Healthcare-Associated Infection/Antibiotic Resistance (HAI/AR) Prevention Program consistent with the CMS reporting program; to maintain a current surveillance system regarding HIV and AIDS including genetic sequencing, documentation of HIV negative tests, history of PrEP treatment, and antiretroviral treatment; to promote compliance in the reporting of communicable diseases; and to provide updated material to be incorporated by reference.

(c) How the amendment conforms to the content of the authorizing statutes: KRS 211.090(3) authorizes the secretary to adopt rules and regulations necessary to regulate and control all matters set forth in KRS 211.180. KRS 211.180(1) authorizes the cabinet to enforce the administrative regulations promulgated by the secretary of the Cabinet for Health and Family Services including policies, plans, and comprehensive programs relating to the detection, prevention, and control of communicable diseases. This amendment provides necessary updates needed to remain current in the accurate reporting of diseases.

(d) How the amendment will assist in the effective administration of the statutes: By updating this administrative regulation to reflect the current nature of multi-drug resistant organisms, the antimicrobial use surveillance, the provisions needed for accurate data collection regarding M. tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, the list of reportable diseases, and the reference to penalties for non-reporting, the amendment allows for up-to-date compliance between the statutes and the administrative regulations.

(3) List the type and number of individuals, businesses, organizations, or state and local governments affected by this administrative regulation: The entities affected by this administrative regulation include all health facilities as defined by KRS 216B.015(13), health professionals licensed under KRS Chapters 311 through 314, medical laboratories as defined by KRS 333.020(3), national reference laboratories contracted by Kentucky health professionals, laboratories, or healthcare facilities, pharmacists licensed under KRS Chapter 315, and veterinarians licensed under KRS Chapter 321. In addition, all citizens of the Commonwealth will be affected as a result of this amendment.

(4) Provide an analysis of how the entities identified in question (3) will be impacted by either the implementation of this administrative regulation, if new, or by the change, if it is an amendment, including:

(a) List the actions that each of the regulated entities identified in questions (3) will have to take to comply with this administrative regulation or amendment: The regulated entities in question (3) will need to be aware of the updated lists of diseases and conditions requiring reporting including infectious agents and multi-drug resistant organisms. They will need to be aware of the specimens and isolates requiring submission to the Division of Laboratory Services. They also need to be aware of updated requirements regarding laboratory testing and submission of M. tuberculosis. Furthermore, entities need to be aware of immediate, urgent, priority, routine, and general reporting methods.

(b) In complying with this administrative regulation or amendment, how much will it cost each of the identities identified in question (3): The costs associated with compliance is unknown. Healthcare facilities and physicians already report communicable diseases.

(c) As a result of compliance, what benefits will accrue to the entities identified in question (3): As a result of compliance, the benefits of the timely and appropriate prevention and control of communicable diseases will be afforded to all citizens of the Commonwealth.

(5) Provide an estimate of how much it will cost the administrative body to implement this administrative regulation:
(a) Initially: This is an ongoing program, there are no initial costs.
(b) On a continuing basis: There is no increase in ongoing costs associated with the amendment to this administrative regulation.

(6) What is the source of the funding to be used for the implementation and enforcement of this administrative regulation: The reportable disease programs affected by this administrative regulation are funded through a mix of state general fund dollars, federal dollars, and specialized grants.

(7) Provide an assessment of whether an increase in fees or funding will be necessary to implement this administrative regulation, if new or by the change, if it is an amendment: An increase in fees or funding is not necessary to implement the changes with this amended administrative regulation.

(8) State whether or not this administrative regulation established any fees or directly or indirectly increased any fees. This administrative regulation does not contain fees.

(9) TIERING: Is tiering applied? Tiering is not applied. While the list of reportable diseases and conditions is separated by immediate, urgent, priority, routine, or general notification, all healthcare facilities and physicians are required to report any known communicable disease.

FISCAL NOTE ON STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

1. What units, parts or divisions of state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) will be impacted by this administrative regulation? This administrative regulation impacts the Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning, as well as all local health departments.

2. Identify each state or federal statute or federal regulation that requires or authorizes the action taken by the administrative regulation. KRS 194A.050, 211.090(3), 211.180(1), and 214.010

3. Estimate the effect of this administrative regulation on the expenditures and revenues of a state or local government agency (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first full year the administrative regulation is to be in effect.

(a) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for the first year? This administrative regulation does not generate revenue.

(b) How much revenue will this administrative regulation generate for the state or local government (including cities, counties, fire departments, or school districts) for subsequent years? This administrative regulation does not generate revenue.

(c) How much will it cost to administer this program for the first year? There are no increased costs to administer this program in the first year.

(d) How much will it cost to administer this program for subsequent years? There are no increased costs to administer this program in subsequent years.

Note: If specific dollar estimates cannot be determined, provide a brief narrative to explain the fiscal impact of the administrative regulation.

Revenues (+/-):
Expenditures (+/-):
Other Explanation: